



Minnesota Ag News – Sheep and Lambs

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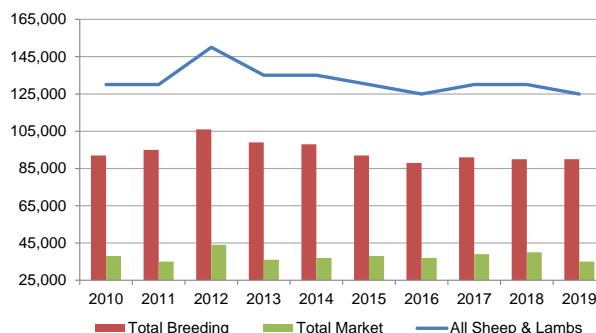
Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

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All sheep and lambs inventory in Minnesota as of January 1, 2019, totaled 125,000 head, down 4 percent from 2018, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Sheep and Goats* report. Total **breeding stock**, at 90,000 head, was unchanged from a year ago. Compared with last year, **market sheep and lambs** decreased 12 percent to 35,000 head. The **lamb crop** for 2018 totaled 90,000 head. **Wool** production for the State was 640,000 pounds, down 9 percent from last year.

Sheep and Lamb Inventory - Minnesota: January 1



All Sheep and Lambs, Number by Class – Minnesota and United States: January 1, 2018 and 2019

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	130.0	125.0	96	5,265.0	5,230.0	99
Total breeding sheep	90.0	90.0	100	3,865.0	3,820.0	99
Ewes	74.0	74.0	100	3,033.0	3,000.0	99
Rams	4.0	4.0	100	170.0	170.0	100
Replacement lambs	12.0	12.0	100	662.0	650.0	98
Total market	40.0	35.0	88	1,400.0	1,410.0	101

Lamb Crop – Minnesota and United States: 2017 and 2018

	Minnesota			United States		
	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Lamb crop	90.0	90.0	100	3,230.0	3,235.0	100

Wool Production, Price and Value – Minnesota and United States: 2017 and 2018

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
Sheep shorn	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Weight per fleece	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(percent)
Production	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
Price per pound	(dollars)	(dollars)	(percent)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(percent)
Value ¹	(1,000 dollars)	(1,000 dollars)	(percent)	(1,000 dollars)	(1,000 dollars)	(percent)
Sheep shorn	112.0	102.0	91	3,435.0	3,372.0	98
Weight per fleece	6.3	6.3	100	7.2	7.2	100
Production	700	640	91	24,810	24,400	98
Price per pound	0.60	0.67	112	1.48	1.75	118
Value ¹	420	429	102	36,774	42,772	116

¹ Production multiplied by marketing year average price. United States value is the summation of State values.

United States Sheep and Lambs

All sheep and lambs inventory in the United States on January 1, 2019 totaled 5.23 million head, down 1 percent from 2018. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.82 million head on January 1, 2019, decreased 1 percent from 3.87 million head on January 1, 2018. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.00 million head, were 1 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2019 totaled 1.41 million head, up 1 percent from January 1, 2018. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2018 lamb crop of 3.24 million head was up slightly from 2017. The 2018 lambing rate was 107 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2018, up 1 percent from 2017.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2018 was 24.4 million pounds, down 2 percent from 2017. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.37 million head, down 2 percent from 2017. The average price paid for wool sold in 2018 was \$1.75 per pound for a total value of 42.8 million dollars, up 16 percent from 36.8 million dollars in 2017.

Sheep death loss during 2018 totaled 216 thousand head, up 1 percent from 2017. Lamb death loss increased 6 percent from 367 thousand head to 388 thousand head in 2018.

All Sheep and Lambs Inventory – United States: January 1

Thousand head

